

Application No. 10/753,684  
Amendment "A" dated February 7, 2006  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 7, 2005

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An adjustable inclining treadmill comprising:  
  
a frame;  
  
an inclining tread base linked to the frame; and  
  
a pivoting hood assembly coupled to the frame, the pivoting hood assembly having a proximal end, a distal end, and a hood assembly pivot positioned therebetween;  
  
an inclining tread base pivotally coupled to a proximal end of the pivoting hood assembly the pivoting hood assembly being adapted to incline the tread base to a grade of at least 20 percent; and  
  
a lift motor adapted to engage the distal end of the pivoting hood assembly to pivot the pivoting hood assembly and cause inclination of the inclining tread base.
2. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is adapted to incline the tread base to at an angle of at least 30 degrees.
3. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is adapted to incline the tread base to a grade of at least 40 percent.

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4. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is adapted to incline the tread base to a grade of at least 50 percent.

5. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is positioned at an angle to greater than 40 degrees when the tread base is at its greatest grade of incline.

6. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein pivoting of the pivoting hood assembly causes inclining of the inclining tread base.

7. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 1, wherein the pivoting hood assembly includes a lift motor and a channel bracket assembly.

8. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 7, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is pivotally coupled to the frame at a hood assembly pivot.

9. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 8, wherein the lift motor engages the channel bracket assembly at a point distal to the hood assembly pivot.

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10. (Currently Amended) An adjustable inclining treadmill comprising:
- a frame;
  - ~~an inclining tread base linked to the frame; and~~
  - a pivoting hood assembly coupled to the frame at a hood assembly pivot;
  - an inclining tread base pivotally coupled to one end of the pivoting hood
  - ~~assembly, the pivoting hood assembly being adapted to incline the tread base to a grade of at least~~
  - ~~20 percent; and~~
  - a lift motor adapted to engage the pivoting hood assembly such that retraction of
  - the lift motor increases the degree of incline of the tread base and extension of the lift
  - motor decreases the degree of incline of the treadbase.

11. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is positioned of about 45 degrees or greater when the tread base is at its greatest degree of incline.

12. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is positioned at an angle greater than 55 degrees when the tread base is at its greatest degree of incline.

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13. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is positioned at an angle greater than 65 degrees when the tread base is at its greatest degree of incline.

14. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is positioned at an angle greater than 75 degrees when the tread base is at its greatest degree of incline.

15. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is pivotally coupled to an upright member of the frame.

16. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein the inclining tread base is pivotally coupled to the pivoting hood assembly.

17. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 10, wherein pivoting of the pivoting hood assembly results in pivoting of the inclining treadbase.

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18. (Currently Amended) An adjustable inclining treadmill comprising:

a frame;

~~an inclining tread base linked to the frame; and~~

a pivoting hood assembly coupled to the frame, the pivoting hood assembly

having a proximal end, a distal end, and a hood assembly pivot positioned therebetween;

an inclining tread base pivotally coupled to a proximal end of the pivoting hood  
assembly the pivoting hood assembly being adapted to incline the tread base to a grade of at least  
20 percent; and

a lift motor adapted to engage the distal end of the pivoting hood assembly to  
pivot the pivoting hood assembly and cause inclination of the inclining tread base such  
that retraction of the lift motor increases the degree of incline of the tread base and  
extension of the lift motor decreases the degree of incline of the treadbase.

19. The inclining treadmill of claim 18, wherein the lift motor engages the channel bracket assembly at a point distal to the hood assembly pivot to pivot the pivoting hood assembly.

20. The inclining treadmill of claim 18, wherein the lift motor pulls against the channel bracket assembly to increase the degree of inclination of the tread base.

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21. The inclining treadmill of claim 18, wherein the lift motor pushes against the channel bracket assembly to decrease the degree of inclination of the tread base.

22. The inclining treadmill of claim 19, wherein the lift motor comprises a lead screw lift motor.

23. The inclining treadmill of claim 22, wherein a lead screw of the lift motor engages a channel bracket of the channel bracket assembly.

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24. (Currently Amended) An adjustable inclining treadmill comprising:

a frame;

an inclining tread base linked to the frame; and

a pivoting hood assembly comprising:

a lift motor;

a hood housing configured to cover one or more internal component of the inclining treadmill;

a pivoting plate/bracket assembly pivotally coupled/linked to the frame at a hood assembly pivot, the hood assembly pivot being offset from the distal end of the hood housing;

a channel bracket assembly coupled to the pivoting plate, wherein the lift motor engages the channel bracket assembly to pivot the pivoting hood assembly;  
and

an inclining tread base pivotally coupled to the channel bracket assembly  
such that pivoting of the pivoting hood assembly causes inclination of the inclining tread base.

25. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 24, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is coupled to the frame only at the hood assembly pivot and is coupled to the inclining tread base only at the tread base pivot.

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26. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 23, wherein the frame includes an upright member.

27. The adjustable inclining treadmill of claim 23, wherein the pivoting hood assembly is coupled to the upright member of the frame.

28-34 (cancelled)